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again noticed among children of the mixed type. The city-born children show a slightly greater tendency to infectious diseases, except to scarlatina, than those born in the country.

The city-born children examined show 8.2 per cent of short-sighted individuals, those born in the country only 7.6 per cent. Defects of hearing were noticed in 5.4 per cent of the 7607 boys examined. These data cannot be considered in any way as very exceptional. Myopia is more frequent among the dark, defects of hearing among blonde, children.

Such are, briefly, the results of the study of Dr. Matiegka. The creditable work arouses the reflection, Why do not all our large American cities follow the example of Boston, Worcester, Toronto, St. Louis, where highly successful work of similar nature has been done? Our cities are certainly more able financially to support work of this nature than is Prague, or, in fact, any European city; and the investigations are at least more desirable and promising than in any European capital. The most interesting and instructive conditions of choice, mixture, survival, and, possibly, evolution, are passing under our eyes unrecorded. This is a country which presents almost all the climates, an infinity of social conditions, and a large number of racial relations, which all more or less affect the development of the American of the future. Yet most of these opportunities are neglected. This is only partly, if at all, due to a lack of the proper men to do the work. The main obstructions which the American anthropologist has to contend with in this particular line are a disinterested, or even unfavorable public sentiment and, what will no doubt appear incomprehensible to our European colleagues, a lack of funds.

ALES HRDLICKA.

Anthropological Notes. — In the April number of the *Geographical Journal* it is stated that letters from Mr. Low, dated December 30, have been received, telling of his arrival at Great Whale River, on the east coast of Hudson Bay. He had surveyed about five hundred miles of coast, half of which was entirely new. Mr. Low carried a pair of skis with him, and states that the Eskimos of Great Whale River are devoting themselves to making and learning to use skis.

In the same journal Mr. Edward Heawood gives a summary of the contents of a dozen recent books on Africa.

Dr. William Sorenson, of Copenhagen, we are told in a paragraph in *Natural Science* for April, has shown that Worsaae was the first to

discover the true character of kitchen-middens. "Fifty years ago it was an audacity to believe in men so very ancient as these oyster-eaters. Now we only think of their audacity in eating so many oysters."

The *Smithsonian Report* for 1897 contains an account of the archaeological field work of Dr. Fewkes for that year. The primary aim of his explorations was to trace the migrations of the Hopi from the South, and to determine the limits of the Hopi and Zuni zones of ruins in Arizona and New Mexico, respectively. The greater part of the summer was spent in the Pueblo Viejo region; from the identity in color, texture, and decoration of the pottery in upper and lower Gila ruins, and the fact that in both regions the people cremated their dead, Dr. Fewkes concludes that the former inhabitants were of a similar state of culture, if not of the same stock. The distribution of the varieties of pottery is shown by maps, and its form and decoration by numerous plates.

During the excavations made at Brassempouy in 1897, by MM. E. Piette and J. de La Porterie, a number of interesting examples of prehistoric art were discovered. Especially noteworthy among these were the engravings representing the horse and other animals. To the reprint from the original paper in *l'Anthropologie*, Vol. IX, pp. 531-555, is appended a list of the numerous scientific papers by M. Piette, which extend over a period of nearly half a century.

In an entertaining paper upon the Indian Congress at Omaha, published in the *American Anthropologist* for January, 1899, Mr. James Mooney has condensed much valuable information regarding the present status of the Indians. About twenty tribes were represented at the Congress, mostly of the plains type; these are briefly described, and a table containing a few words from their languages is added.

A number of articles of anthropological interest are to be found in Vol. XII, Part III, of the *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*. Edward E. Hale describes the manuscript dictionaries of the Massachusetts Indians which were bequeathed to the society by Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull. These have been placed in the hands of Albert S. Gatschet for publication by the Bureau of Ethnology. G. Stanley Hall gives an account of "Initiations into Adolescence," particularly church initiations.

G. Papillault has published a valuable paper upon the "Ontogeny and Phylogeny of the Human Cranium" in Vol. IX, No. 4, of the *Revue de l'École d'Anthropologie de Paris*.

The results of an extended and valuable anthropometrical investigation have been recently published by Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, who measured and examined the thousand white and colored children in the New York Juvenile Asylum and the hundred colored children of the New York Colored Orphan Asylum. The object of the investigation was "to learn as much as possible about the physical state of the children who are being admitted and kept in juvenile asylums. In the second place, this study is a part of the general anthropometrical work of the author, and thus expected to result in an addition to our knowledge of the normal child and of several classes of children who are, morally or otherwise, abnormal." The plan of arrangement of the records obtained will show the scope of the work. 1. General data on the total of subjects. 2. Detailed study; children in this group are separated according to their color, sexes, and ages. 3. Physical differences between white and colored children of both sexes and different ages. 4. Children of different nationalities. 5. Children without any physical defects, with their family and individual histories. 6. Children with five or more physical abnormalities. 7. Vicious and criminal children. 8. Children whose parents were intemperate, prostitute, or criminal. 9. Children both of whose parents are dead. 10. Children one or both of whose parents died of consumption.

F. R.

PSYCHOLOGY.

"The Dawn of Reason." — Dr. Weir has written an exceedingly readable book in his *Dawn of Reason*,¹ and one important for the large results it presents of personal study of the simpler forms of life, and of original research upon the nature of their sensory processes. As its chief title indicates, the aim of the work is to trace back mental traits to their origins, and to point out their earliest manifestations in the scale of animal life.

In ten chapters the author treats the Senses in the Lower Animals, to which he adds two auxiliaries, Color-change and the Homing Sense; Teleological Reactions, including Simulation of Death; Memory, Emotion, Æstheticism, and Parental Affection.

It is difficult to estimate the value of the author's results, since

¹ Weir, James Jr., M.D. *The Dawn of Reason*; or, Mental Traits in the Lower Animals. New York, Macmillan. 8vo, pp. 234.